

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

FEA-01 ACDA-10 AGR-10 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00

CIEP-02 OFA-01 COME-00 DLOS-04 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04

ERDA-07 FMC-02 TRSE-00 INT-05 JUSE-00 NSF-02 OES-05

OMB-01 SAL-01 /149 W

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R 170824Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2833

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION USNATO

USDOCOSOUTH

USDOCOALSE

6 ATAF

UNCLAS ANKARA 2068

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR,PLOS, TU, GR

SUBJ: DEMIREL AND ECEVIT COMMENT FURTHER ON THE AEGEAN

REF ANKARA 2043 DTG 161328Z MAR 76

1. PRIMIN DEMIREL AND REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP)
CHAIRMAN ECEVIT COMMENTED FURTHER MARCH 16 ON THE AEGEAN
DISPUTE BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY.

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A. DEMIREL DENIED A RECENT PRESS REPORT THAT TURKEY

HAD GIVEN THE GREE AMBASSADOR A NOTE REITERATING A WARNING AGAINST DECLARING A 12-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA (REFTEL. COMMENTING ON OTHER PRESS REPORTS THAT TURKEY WOULD LEAVE NATO IF A 12-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA LIMIT WAS APPROVED AT THE LAW OF THE SEA (LOS) CONFERENCE, DEMIREL STATED, "THERE IS NO NEED FOR TURKEY TO LEAVE NATO UNDER THE PRESENT CONDITIONS. TURKEY IS IN NATO FOR A REASON AND IT IS NOT SO EASY FOR HER TO LEAVE IT. THERE ARE WAYS OF DOING THIS. A CERTAIN PERIOD HAS TO ELAPSE. LEAVING NATO IS NOT UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR THE MOMENT."

B. ECEVIT, WHO TALKED WITH REPORTERS FOLLOWING HIS MEETING WITH DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTER MAX VAN DER STOEL, REITERATED HIS RECENT CRITICISMS OF THE DEMIREL GOVT'S AEGEAN POLICY, WHICH HE LABELED "INCOMPREHENSIBLY NEGLIGENT." HE SAID, "IF GREECE DOES NOT AGREE TO A SOLUTION OF THE AEGEAN QUESTION THROUGH HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL TALKS, THEN THERE REMAINS ONLY ONE THING FOR TURKEY TO DO: CARRY OUT ITS OWN PROSPECTING IN THE AEGEAN WITH THE MEASURES WHICH IT FINDS JUSTIFIED."

2. VAN DET STOEIL, WHO COMPLETED TWO DAYS CONVERSATIONS WITH TURKISH PUBLIC OFFICIALS, TOLD REPORTERS AFTER MEETING WITH ECEVIT, THAT "THE TWO COUNTRIES (TURKEY AND GREECE) SHOULD REACH AGREEMENT BETWEEN THEMSELVES ON THE TERRITORIAL SEA ISSUE IN THE AEGEAN."

ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS, WHEN SHOWN A MAP DEPICTING A 12-MILE LIMIT IN THE AEGEAN, VAN DET STOEIL SAID, "IN SUCH A SITUATION TURKEY WAS JUSTIFIED" IN WANTING "SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES" TO BE ACKNOWLEDGED IN THE AEGEAN.
MACOMBER

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